oliveboard

NEW PATTERN ENGLISH PRACTICE QUESTIONS



For CLAT Exam 2020

CLAT – English Practice questions

(Directions 1 - 5 Read the paragraph and answer the questions that follows.)

It's high time science took a good hard look at religion. Why? Because it has become evident in recent years that if we are to make progress on the world's major problems, we will have to learn more about religions and the influence they wield over people's lives and actions. Failure to appreciate the dynamics of religious allegiance, and the psychological impact of religious differences, may lead us to invest heavily in counterproductive policies. The phoenix-like rebound of religion in the former Soviet Union suggests to many that just as prohibition and the war on drugs have proved to be disastrous, if well-meant, attempts to deal with the excesses of these popular indulgences, so any ill-informed effort to rein in the fanatical strains of religion will probably backfire badly if we don't study the surrounding phenomena carefully and objectively.

From a biological perspective, religion is a remarkably costly human activity that has evolved over the millennia. What "pays for" this profligate expense? Why does it exist and how does it foster such powerful allegiances? To many people, even asking such a question will seem a sacrilege. But to undertake a serious scientific study of religious practices and attitudes, we must set aside the traditional exemption from scrutiny that religions have enjoyed. Some people are sure that the world would be a better place without religion.

I am not persuaded, because I cannot yet characterize anything that could replace it in the hearts of most human beings. (Perhaps we should try to eliminate music while we are at it. It inflames the passions and seduces many young people into wasted lives.) What people care about deeply deserves to be taken seriously. Exempting religion from scrutiny is a patronizing way of declaring it to be all just fashion and ceremony. Either we take religion as seriously as we take global warming and el Niño, and study it intensively, or we treat it as mere superstition and backwardness.

As with the other marvels of nature, I find that paying scrupulous attention to its elegant designs increases my appreciation of it, but others may think that too much knowledge of the backstage machinery threatens to diminish their awe, to break a spell that should not be broken. This is not just a difference in taste, or a purely academic disagreement. Our futures may well depend on how we decide to proceed.

Q.1) The author's attitude towards religion is

a) He looks at religion with awe.
b) He believes in following a religion.
c) He considers questioning religion to be morally wrong.
d) None of the above

Correct Answer: **option c**

Q.2) Which of the following would the author most likely to agree with?

a) God is omnipresent.
b) A scientific study of religion would revive people's faith in God.
c) People generally do not take religion seriously.
d) Religion may have elements of extremism.

Correct Ans: **option b**

Q.3) Which of the following is implied about religion in Soviet Union?

a) The religion and religious practices were suppressed in Soviet Union for some period.
b) In Soviet Union religion was used as a weapon to win the war against drugs.
c) In Soviet Union there were riots among different religious groups for some period.
d) The State religion of Soviet Union was a bone of contention among some factions.

Correct Ans: **option a**

Q.4) The author draws a comparison between music and religion to signify?

a) that both require extreme dedication.
b) that both have a tendency to lead people to wasteful lives.
c) both have strong allegiances that may be hard to shake off.
d) that it would be difficult to replace one with the other

Correct Ans: **option c**

Q.5) Which one of the following expresses the main point of the passage accurately?

a) The war on religion could prove to be disastrous.
b) Trying to wish away religion by keeping it away from scrutiny is a bad step for future.
c) For most people religion is the most important part of their lives.
d) Being religious has both benefits and drawbacks

Correct Ans: **option d**

(Directions 6 – 15 Read the paragraph and answer the questions that follows.)

The spread of education in society is at the foundation of success in countries that are latecomers to development. In the quest for development, primary education is essential because it creates the base. But higher education is just as important, for it provides the **cutting edge**. And universities are the lifeblood of higher education. Islands of excellence in professional education, such as Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), are valuable complements but cannot be substitutes for universities which provide educational opportunities for people at large.

There can be no doubt that higher education has made a significant contribution to economic development, social progress and political democracy in independent India. It is a source of dynamism for the economy. It has created social opportunities for people. It has fostered the vibrant democracy in our polity. It has provided a beginning for the creation of a knowledge society. But it would be a mistake to focus on its strengths alone. It has weaknesses that are a cause for serious concern.

There is, in fact, a quiet crisis in higher education in India that runs deep. It is not yet **discernible** simply because there are pockets of excellence, an enormous reservoir of talented young people and an intense competition in the admissions process. And, in some important spheres, we continue to reap and benefits of what was sown in higher education 50 years ago by the founding fathers of the Republic. The reality is that we have miles to go. The proportion of our population, in the age group 18-24, that enters the world of higher education is around 7 per cent, which is only one-half the average for Asia. The opportunities for higher education, in terms of the number of places in universities, are simply not enough in relation to our needs. What is more, the quality of higher education in most of our universities requires substantial improvement.

It is clear that the system of higher education in India faces serious challenges. It needs a systematic overhaul, so that we can educate much larger numbers without diluting academic standards. This is imperative because the transformation of economy and society in the 21st century would depend, in significant part, on the spread and the quality of education among our people, particularly in the sphere of higher education. It is only an inclusive society that can provide the foundations for a knowledge society.

The challenges that confront higher education in India are clear. It needs a massive expansion of opportunities for higher education, to 1500 universities nationwide, that would enable India to attain a gross enrolment ratio of at least 15 per cent by 2015. It is just as important to raise the average quality of higher education in every sphere. At the same time, it is essential to create institutions that are exemplars of excellence at par with the best in the world. In the pursuit of these objectives, providing people with access to higher education in a socially inclusive manner is imperative. The realization of these objectives, combined with access, would not only develop the skills and capabilities we need for the economy but would also help transform India into a knowledge economy and society.

Q6.) The principal focus of the passage is:

a) Primary Education
b) Intermediate Education
c) Higher Education
d) Entire Education System

Correct Ans: **option c**

Q7.) The style of the passage can be best described as :

a) Academic
b) Critical and analytical
c) Comparative
d) None of the above

Correct Ans: **option b**

Q8.) What kind of society can provide the foundation for a knowledge society?

a) Elite society
b) Contracted society
c) Exclusive society
d) Inclusive Society

Correct Ans: **option d**

Q9.) According to the passage, which one of the following is INCORRECT?

a) There are no quality institutes providing excellent professional education in India
b) Not many people go for higher education in India
c) Education is the basis of success
d) All the above options are correct

Correct Ans: **option a**

Q10.) According to the passage, the current state of affairs of higher education in India is

a) Satisfactory
b) Excellent, and there is no need of any expansion of opportunities for higher education
c) Not good enough, and there is a need of expansion of opportunities for higher education, besides creating institutions and universities that are models of excellence
d) Not explained in the passage

Correct Ans: **option c**

Q11.) According to the passage, which of the following is NOT a challenge that confronts higher education in India?

a) Expanding opportunities for higher education
b) Creating institutions and universities that are exemplars of excellence
c) Substantial improvement in the quality of higher education in most of our universities
d) Getting into World University Rankings

Correct Ans: **option d**

Q12.) According to the passage, which of the following is CORRECT?

a) Primary education is very important
b) Universities are the life-blood of higher education
b) Transformation of economy and society in the 21st century would depend, in significant part, on the spread and the quality of education among our people, particularly in the sphere of higher education
d) All the above propositions are correct

Correct Ans: **option d**

Q13.) Should the entire university system in India be modeled on premier institutes, such as, IITs and IIMs, providing professional education?

a) Yes
b) For sure
c) No
d) The passage is silent on this question

Correct Ans: **option c**

Q14.) What is the antonym of the expression 'cutting edge'?

a) Conventional
b) Avant-garde
c) Advanced
d) Contemporary

Correct Ans: **option a**

Q15.) What is the meaning of the word 'discernible'?

a) Unobtrusive
b) Noticeable
c) Unremarkable
d) Inconspicuous

Correct Ans: **option b**

(Direction 16 – 20 Read the paragraph and answer the questions that follows.)

It is difficult to compare countries because various factors such as size, culture, history, geography, natural endowments, geopolitics and internal polity come into play. There are some goals which can be achieved by smaller countries; but sometimes smaller countries find it difficult to embark upon certain big technological plans even if they have the funds, because the size of the domestic market is too small. If we consider the bigger countries, the closest comparison to India is China, though there are many crucial differences.

The Chinese vision is to prepare the country for entry into the ranks of mid-level developed nations by the middle of the twenty-first century. Acceleration of the nation's economic growth and social development by relying on advances in science and technology is pivotal in this.

Documents describing the Chinese vision state that science and technology constitute premier productive forces and represent a great revolutionary power that can propel economic and social development. It is interesting to note that the main lessons the Chinese have drawn from their past performance is their failure to promote science and technology as strategic tools for empowerment. They also point to the absence of mechanisms and motivations in their economic activity to promote dependence on science and technology.

Similarly, they hold that their scientific and technological efforts were not oriented towards economic growth. Consequently, they conclude that a large number of scientific and technological achievements were not converted into productive forces as they were too far removed from China's immediate economic and social needs. The Chinese vision is therefore aimed at exploiting state-of-art science and technology to enhance the nation's overall power and strength, to improve people's living standards, to focus on resolving problems encountered in large-scale industrial and agricultural production and to effectively control and alleviate pressures brought on by population, resources and the environment. By the year 2000, China had aimed at bringing the main industrial sectors up to the technological levels achieved by the developed countries in the 1970s or 80s and by 2020 to the level they would have attained by the early twenty-first century. The aim is to bridge the overall gap with the advanced world. There is a special emphasis on research and development of high technologies that would find defense applications. Some of these technologies are critical for improving the features of key conventional weapons. Some technologies are meant for enhancing future military capabilities. Other efforts are aimed at maintaining the momentum to develop capabilities for cutting-edge defense technologies. They call for unremitting efforts in this regard with the aim of maintaining effective self-defense and nuclear deterrent capabilities and to enable parity in defense, science and technology with the advanced world.

Q16.) Comparison between two countries becomes difficult because:

I. The countries differ in their internal political systems.

II. Each country has its own demography.

III. The countries with homogenous backgrounds are many in number.

a) Only I
b) Only II
c) I and II
d) All of the above

Correct Ans: **option c**

Q17.) What is the goal of China to be accomplished by the middle of 21st century?

a) To become one of the most developed nations.
b) To surpass the level of all middle-level developed nations by a good margin.
c) To be the most influential superpower.
d) None of these

Correct Ans: **option d**

Q18.) What, according to the Chinese vision, can boost socio-economic development of China?

a) Research and development
b) Science and technology
c) Premier productive forces
c) Minds united with revolutionary power

Correct Ans: **option b**

Q19.) Which of the following fields has particularly been valued by China?

a) Building high quality infrastructure
b) Innovation in the field of Medicine
c) Defence applications based on high technologies
d) Agricultural production

Correct Ans: **option c**

Q20.) Which of the following have the Chinese identified as the pitfall/pitfalls from their past?

I. Lack of orientation of science and technology towards economic growth.

II. Lack of mechanism in their economic activities to promote use of science and technology.

III. Excessive emphasis on science and technology as a strategic measure for empowerment.

a) Only I
b) Only II
c) Only III
d) I and II

Correct Ans: **option d**

FREE Ebooks

Download Now

Current Affairs

Explore Now

FREE MOCK TESTS + TOPIC TESTS + SECTIONAL TESTS

For Banking, Insurance, SSC & Railways Exams

Web

APP

BLOG

Your one-stop destination for all exam related information & preparation resources.

Explore Now

FORUM

Interact with peers & experts, exchange scores & improve your preparation.

Explore Now